



ICTV Newsletter #2 2004

Welcome to the second ICTV Newsletter. This Newsletter is designed to provide useful information to all those involved in the work of the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses. In particular, the ICTV Executive Committee (EC) seeks to inform the members of the numerous Study Groups that oversee the individual viral taxa, and to involve them more directly in taxonomic deliberations. It is hoped that the Newsletter will provide an effective way to disseminate important information and thereby facilitate collective efforts such as the 8th Taxonomic Report and the ICTVdatabase.

Readers should be aware that they are responsible for keeping their own personal information, including new email addresses, up to date on the ICTVnet website. You can view your current information on the "UPDATE INFO" link on the ICTVnet web page. There are also several different pages where you can check the address of other contributors or members of ICTV. Check it out at: <http://www.danforthcenter.org/iltab/ICTVnet>.

Meeting dates:

ICTV EC meeting: July 7 to 9, 2004.

The next meeting will be held in beautiful Kingston, Ontario, Canada, just prior to the ASV annual meeting in Montreal. It is expected that the details of the eighth report will be finalized at this meeting but if you have items that you would like discussed, be sure to contact the appropriate Subcommittee Chair prior to the meeting. A simultaneous workshop sponsored by the ICTV Virus Data Sub-Committee will be held. This will be a training session for designated participants. You can learn more about the ICTVdb by going to the web site: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/ICTVdb/>

American Society for Virology (ASV) annual meeting dates:

2004 McGill University, Montreal, Canada July 10 to 14.

Also: an ICTV-sponsored Satellite Symposium on Virus Evolution, July 10, 2004.

<http://virology.wisc.edu/VirusEvol>

2005 Penn State University, University Park PA, USA June 18 to 22.

2006 University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin July 15-19

Virus Evolution Symposium:

The Virus Evolution Symposium will be held as a satellite function in conjunction with the 23rd Annual Meeting of the American Society for Virology (ASV-04), 08:30 h to 15:00 h, Saturday, July 10, 2004, at McGill University, Montreal Canada. Speakers include:

John Coffin, Tufts University

Esteban Domingo, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid

Alexander Gorbalenya, Leiden University Medical Center

Graham Hatfull, University of Pittsburgh

David Mindell, University of Michigan

Ann Palmenberg, University of Wisconsin

Marilyn Roossinck, Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation

Simon Wain-Hobson, Institute Pasteur

Executive committee activities:

Fast track procedure for non-contentious taxonomic proposals

The procedure for reviewing taxonomic proposals using an on-line submission and review process was tested in 2003. All of the material is available on the ICTVNet website for viewing. The Executive Committee would appreciate receiving your comments on this process. You can add comments to the Message Board.

New Life Member

The members of the Executive Committee are pleased to announce that Dr. Marc H. V. Van Regenmortel, past President of the ICTV, has accepted their unanimous invitation to become a Life Member of the ICTV.

Eighth report

Four of the five editors of the 8th ICTV Report (Claude Fauquet, Jack Maniloff, Mike Mayo and Andy Ball) met in St. Louis from December 10-17 2003, to edit the 8th ICTV Report. The fifth editor, Ulrich Desselberger, participated electronically from Europe. The editors would like to express their sincere appreciation to all the authors of the >110 chapters for their hard work, meticulous attention to detail, and patience during the final stages of the editing process. The camera-ready proofs will shortly be sent to Academic Press/Elsevier for publication in the summer of 2004.

Important links:

Main Web site for ICTVnet

<http://www.danforthcenter.org/iltab/ICTVnet/asp/MainPage.asp>

Templates for taxonomic proposals

http://www.danforthcenter.org/iltab/ICTVnet/Taxoprop_templates.htm

Taxonomic proposals on the web:

<http://www.danforthcenter.org/iltab/ICTVnet/asp/iMessageBoards.asp?mode=2>

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Finally, thank you to the several people who sent comments on the first Newsletter. Please distribute the Newsletter freely on to anyone who may be interested in increasing the awareness of virus taxonomy and nomenclature.

Problems, comments and questions:

As always, we welcome comments and suggestions. The last emailing resulted in 54 individual and many more group distribution errors, unrecognized or in active email addresses. How can we reach these people and make sure that the email addresses are correct in our database? One way is for YOU to check you personal information to ensure that it is correct, and update it on-line if it is not. If you are a National Representative, make sure all the appropriate information is included on web site.

Editors: Eric Carstens & Andy Ball
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